

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed March 20, 2006 (Paper No. 1). The Office Action alleges that the present application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: Figures 8, 10, 11, 16, and 17. The Office Action requires Applicants to elect a single species on the basis of these figures, and further requires an indication of all claims readable on the elected species.

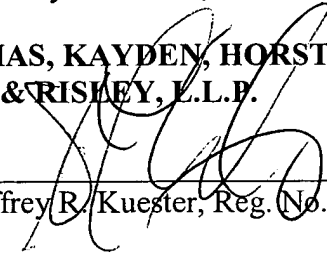
Applicants respectfully elect, without traverse, to prosecute the species corresponding to Figure 11. Applicants submit that all presently pending claims (1-24, 55-58, and 72-235) read on Figure 11. Applicants note that one or more additional figures may be associated with the presently pending claims.

Claims 25-54 and 59-71 are cancelled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants have amended claims 195 and 196 to correct an improper dependency. Applicants take this action merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these cancelled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate any of the cancelled subject matter to the public. Applicants expressly reserve the right to present cancelled claims 25-54 and 59-71 or variants thereof, in continuing applications to be filed subsequent to the present application.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney

Respectfully submitted,

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